

of Oklahoma. Recently, a group of students from Tahlequah High School in Tahlequah, OK, participated in the national finals of "We The People . . . The Citizens and the Constitution." These students traveled here to Washington, DC for the final competition after excelling in the preliminary stages.

This contest is held for students who have a remarkable knowledge of American history. The group includes Chris Augerhole, J.R. Baker, Chad Blish, Ryan Cannonie, Taylor Gibson, Carlton Heard, Cobin Heard, Zach Israel, Doug Kirk, Helena Loose, Lacie Newman, Tim Pace, Rebecca Walker, Derek Whaler, Brandon Zellner and their teacher Norma Boren.

These young Oklahomans demonstrated their ability to articulate the ideals of American government while taking part in a simulated congressional hearing.

I commend these students for their outstanding achievement.●

IN RECOGNITION OF HADASSAH'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America as they celebrate their 90th anniversary. Hadassah is a non-profit volunteer women's organization dedicated to health care, education, and advocacy. Originally created to bring modern health care to the sick and suffering inhabitants of Palestine, Hadassah has grown into a thriving international organization actively engaged in issues that affect the health and livelihood of Jewish people throughout the United States and Israel.

Founded in 1912, Hadassah retains the passion and timeless values of its founder, Henrietta Szold, Jewish scholar and activist, who was dedicated to Judaism, Zionism, and the American ideal.

In Israel, the Hadassah Medical Organization, HMO, runs two hospitals, five schools, outpatient clinics, research facilities, and a community health center. With support from over 300,000 Hadassah members worldwide, HMO offers expert treatment and tender care to more than half a million people in Israel each year.

In the United States, Hadassah enhances the quality of American and Jewish life through its education and Zionist youth programs. It promotes health awareness and provides personal enrichment and growth for its members.

In a year long celebration, Hadassah will commemorate its 90 years of service. To mark this occasion, I would like to applaud Hadassah and its members for their efforts to improve the lives of all the people they serve.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 486. An act for the relief of Barbara Makuch.

H.R. 487. An act for the relief of Eugene Makuch.

H.R. 1877. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that certain sexual crimes against children are predicate crimes for the interception of communications, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3375. An act to provide compensation for the United States citizens who were victims of the bombings of United States embassies in East Africa on August 7, 1998, on the same basis as compensation is provided to victims of the terrorist-related aircraft crashes on September 11, 2001.

H.R. 3833. An act to facilitate the creation of a new, second-level Internet domain within the United States country code domain that will be a haven for material that promotes positive experiences for children and families using the Internet, provides a safe online environment for children, and helps to prevent children from being exposed to harmful material on the Internet, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3994. An act to authorize economic and democratic development assistance for Afghanistan and to authorize military assistance for Afghanistan and certain other foreign countries.

H.R. 4015. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise and improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4085. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living increase in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disability and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses of such veterans, to expand certain benefits for veterans and their survivors, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4231. An act to improve small business advocacy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4514. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4592. An act to name the chapel located in the national cemetery in Los Angeles, California, as the "Bob Hope Veterans Chapel."

H.R. 4626. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the marriage penalty relief in the standard deduction and to modify the work opportunity credit and the welfare-to-work credit.

H.R. 4782. An act to extend the authority of the Export-Import Bank until June 14, 2002.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 405. Concurrent resolution commemorating the independence of East Timor and commending the President for promptly establishing diplomatic relations with East Timor.

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3448) to improve the ability of the United States to prevent, prepare for, and respond to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 486. An act for the relief of Barbara Makuch; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 487. An act for the relief of Eugene Makuch; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1877. An act to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide that certain sexual crimes against children are predicate crimes for the interception of communications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3375. An act to provide compensation for the United States citizens who were victims of the bombings of United States embassies in East Africa on August 7, 1998, on the same basis as compensation is provided to victims of the terrorist-related aircraft crashes on September 11, 2001; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3833. An act to facilitate the creation of a new, second-level Internet domain within the United States country code domain that will be a haven for material that promotes positive experiences for children and families using the Internet, provides a safe online environment for children, and helps to prevent children from being exposed to harmful material on the Internet, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 3994. An act to authorize economic and democratic development assistance for Afghanistan and to authorize military assistance for Afghanistan and certain other foreign countries; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 4015. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise and improve employment, training, and placement services furnished to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4085. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide a cost-of-living increase in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disability and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses of such veterans, to expand certain benefits for veterans and their survivors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4514. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 4626. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to accelerate the marriage penalty relief in the standard deduction and to modify the work opportunity credit and the welfare-to-work credit; to the Committee on Finance.